



# EMS STAR OF LIFE

May 24, 2023

## 2023 AWARDS CEREMONY



EMS  
Star of Life Award®





# EMS WEEK

Where **Emergency Care** Begins  
May 21-27, 2023



# PAST EMS STARS





# EMS STAR OF LIFE PURPOSE

## HONOR

*Exceptional EMS personnel from Ohio.*

## RECOGNIZE

*Ohio's emergency medical services system and organizations for a job well done.*

## REUNITE

*EMS providers with the person treated and present the actual patient scenario.*

## GENERATE

*Positive media stories regarding out-of-hospital care and the EMS Star of Life Awards.*

## MAGNIFY

*The profile of National EMS Week in the State of Ohio.*

# AGENDA

## 22<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL EMS STAR OF LIFE AWARDS CEREMONY

12:15 p.m. .... Meet & Greet/Photos

1:00 p.m.

Welcome ..... **Mark Marchetta**

*State Board of Emergency Medical, Fire, and Transportation Services*

Opening Remarks ..... **Assistant Director Karen Huey**

*Ohio Department of Public Safety*

1:15 p.m. .... Award Presentations

EMS Agency of the Year ..... **Goshen Township Fire and EMS**

*Presented by Carol A. Cunningham, MD, FAAEM, FAEMS*

*State of Ohio Medical Director*

EMS Medical Director

of the Year ..... **Ross Campensa, M.D.**

*Presented by Mark Resanovich*

*State Board of Emergency Medical, Fire, and Transportation Services*

Frank Giampetro

Distinguished EMS Educator Award ..... **Rita Chambers**

*Presented by Mark Resanovich*

*State Board of Emergency Medical, Fire, and Transportation Services*

EMS Provider of the Year ..... **Jill Dixon**

*Presented by Holly Dorr, MBA, CAE, CMP*

*Ohio Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians*

EMS Stars ..... **Award Presentations**

*Presented by Brad Raetzke, MD, MBA, FACEP*

*Ohio Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians*

Closing remarks ..... **Mark Marchetta**

*State Board of Emergency Medical, Fire and Transportation Services*





# EMS STARS

## 22<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL EMS STAR OF LIFE AWARDS CEREMONY

### **Clearcreek Fire District and CareFlight**

*Eric Ney, patient*

### **Johnston Township Fire Department**

*Martin Williams, patient*

### **Loveland-Symmes Fire Department**

*Gregory Wells, patient*

### **Ripley Life Squad, Inc., Ripley Fire Department and University of Cincinnati Air Care**

*Austin Bellamy, patient*

### **Sandusky County EMS and Mercy Life Flight**

*Lisa Taylor, patient*

### **Saybrook Township Fire Department**

*Mark Legg, patient*

### **Tipp City Emergency Services, New Carlisle Fire Department, and CareFlight**

*Sue Ducker, patient*

### **Westlake Fire Department**

*Daniel Deagan, patient*

# EMS AGENCY OF THE YEAR

## GOSHEN TOWNSHIP FIRE AND EMS

A devastating tornado directly impacted Goshen Township Fire and EMS, but that didn't stop members from focusing on the needs of the community in the wake of disaster. On July 6th, 2022, an EF2 tornado touched down in Goshen Township. The tornado spent eight minutes on the ground, leaving behind a trail of destruction five miles long and 500 yards wide. Goshen Township Station 18, the department's headquarters, also struck by the tornado and a third of the building collapsed.



However, fire department personnel continued to put all of their energy into taking care of the community. In the first 24 hours after the tornado tore through town, Goshen Township crews responded to 21 EMS calls for service and 120 fire incidents. For the next several weeks, department members spent days away from their own families to help others in the community. Many were so committed to helping others that supervisors had to order members to go home and rest.





**The department's commitment to the community goes far beyond stepping up in the aftermath of a natural disaster.**



The department's commitment to the community goes far beyond stepping up in the aftermath of a natural disaster. Goshen Township Fire and EMS also regularly provides education to the public and to local schools. They are also inspiring the next generation of first responders by teaching an introduction course to fire service for seniors at Goshen High School.

The dedication and resiliency of the members of Goshen Township Fire and EMS, especially in 2022 amid their own extreme challenges and proves their level of professionalism and dedication to the community.



# MEDICAL DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR

## **ROSS CAMPENSA, MD** **CITY OF GREEN FIRE DIVISION**


It's no wonder Dr. Ross Campensa chose a life of public service. He grew up watching his father's impact in the community as a firefighter for the City of Cleveland. For the past 32 years, Dr. Campensa has served as Medical Director for the City of Green Fire Division. During that time, he has implemented policies and practices that have, without a doubt, saved many lives.

Dr. Campensa has a thirst for knowledge that motivates him to learn the newest techniques, protocols and equipment. He frequently spends his own time and money attending conferences and other professional seminars to not only improve his own skills, but also to discover new practices and equipment that will help care for the citizens of Green. Changes implemented under his direction have increased a patient's chances of survival from a sudden cardiac event to 24%, which is three times the national average.

Dr. Campensa spends four eight-hour days a month on site at the department, working with each of the three shifts. On three of those days, he rides along with the paramedics to watch them in action and evaluate their skills. He gives them real-time guidance on how to improve their performance. Dr. Campensa then spends one day in the office where he helps develop protocol, offers advice on policies and procedures, and meets one-on-one with paramedics as a coach and mentor.

While all of those responsibilities sound like a full-time job, for many years Dr. Campensa carried out all of those duties while still working long shifts in a hospital emergency department. These days,





**Changes implemented under his direction have increased a patient's chances of survival from a sudden cardiac event to 24% which is three times the national average.**

he maintains a busy schedule traveling northeast Ohio to lecture and provide continuing education and support to EMS crews in multiple departments. It's that dedication to the health of the community that has earned Dr. Campensa the respect of his department and of the people he serves.



# FRANK GIAMPETRO DISTINGUISHED EMS EDUCATOR AWARD

## RITA CHAMBERS CITY OF AKRON FIRE DEPARTMENT

Rita Chambers is an internationally known educator who is dedicated to teaching generations of firefighters and paramedics in her local community. She has served as the Quality Assurance Coordinator for the City of Akron Fire Department for more than 30 years. People who have worked with her are moved by her passion and her humility.

Many in Summit County and the Akron area call Rita Chambers the go-to person for all things related to EMS. She is dedicated to training firefighters and paramedics on the most up-to-date techniques and protocols, with the goal of increasing positive patient outcomes. Ms. Chambers collaborates with other departments not just in the region, but across the country and around the world. For several years, she has served with International Trauma Life Support, a non-profit organization that is dedicated to educating first responders on how best to manage traumatic situations outside of hospitals.



**Her compassion for the community and the people who serve that community has touched thousands of lives.**

Rita Chambers is always watching for examples of outstanding performance by EMTs and paramedics who provide exemplary care to make sure they are recognized for going above and beyond. She is also committed to caring for the mental health of all first responders and she knows the situations they witness on a daily basis can be traumatic. For years Ms. Chambers has worked with the Summit



County Safety Forces Chaplaincy Center, which provides first responders with mental health and substance abuse counseling. Her compassion for the community and the people who serve that community has touched thousands of lives. Throughout her stellar career, Rita has always been that person diligently working in the background, not looking for the limelight, but to keep the City of Akron Fire Department on the leading edge of the paramedic profession.





# EMS PROVIDER OF THE YEAR

## JILL DIXON

**FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC, COLUMBUS DIVISION OF FIRE**


Jill Dixon has served the citizens of Columbus for 27 years and has built a reputation for accepting nothing less than excellence. Her skill and professionalism are so widely known, students in the Columbus Division of Fire's training program seek her out as a mentor. New paramedics look up to her as the consummate care provider.

Ms. Dixon has spent her career at Station 21, and most days serves as the paramedic in charge. Her co-workers say that the second she gets to a scene



**Ms. Dixon has implemented procedures and interventions with the goal of providing patients with the best care possible.**





and steps out of her truck you can sense that one of the very best has arrived. The city of Columbus recently recognized Medic 21 as the busiest apparatus in the city. It spends more time on runs serving the community than any other unit in Columbus.

Over the years Ms. Dixon has implemented procedures and interventions with the goal of providing patients with the best care possible. She knows that there is a right way to do things, and that's the way she wants it done. From the morning checks and set-up of her truck, to the behaviors of her crew, to the implementation of procedures and interventions, she seeks absolute excellence on every run. She wants perfection for each and every patient under her care. Her passion for patient advocacy, her clinical decision-making skills and her dedication to excellence make Firefighter/Paramedic Jill Dixon a tremendous asset to the citizens of Columbus.



# EMS STARS

## CLEARCREEK FIRE DISTRICT



Nathan Waters  
EMT/FF



Kevin Stevens  
Paramedic/FF



Timothy Haggard  
Paramedic/FF



Anthony Marinelli  
Paramedic/FF



Ross Moffitt  
Paramedic/FF



Jeff Prass  
Paramedic/FF



Matthew Lalich  
Paramedic/FF



Timothy Simpson  
Paramedic/FF



Jacob Roop  
Paramedic/FF



Nathan Baldrige  
Paramedic/FF

## CAREFLIGHT



Dave Devore  
CareFlight Communication  
Specialist



Victor Thornburg  
CareFlight Nurse/  
Paramedic



Mallory Cassidy  
CareFlight Nurse/  
Paramedic



Sgt. Nicole Cordero  
Clearcreek Police Officer

## CLEARCREEK TWP. POLICE DEPARTMENT

## WARREN COUNTY 911 COMMUNICATIONS



Jonathan Bright  
911 Dispatch Supervisor



Jennifer Key  
911 Dispatcher



Jordan Williams  
911 Dispatcher



Brandy Cooper  
911 Dispatcher



Paige Barton  
911 Dispatcher



Dennis Rutter  
911 Dispatcher



Alexander Lucas  
911 Dispatcher



Stacy Ryan  
911 Dispatcher



Eric Ney  
Patient

*Not Pictured: Brian Stevenson, CareFlight Pilot*



“Shots fired! Officer down!” The radio traffic every dispatcher and law enforcement officer dreads went out in Clearcreek Township on July 12, 2022. Officer Eric Ney, a 14-year veteran, and another officer were dispatched to a domestic violence call. They were told a man was ramming his wife’s car with an ATV. They arrived to find an agitated man who almost immediately pulled a gun and shot Officer Ney in the face. His fellow officer neutralized the shooter and ran to Ney’s side to render aid. That officer’s frantic radio call went to Warren County Communications, which dispatched Clearcreek Fire and EMS. At the time, crews were not aware of the extent of Officer Ney’s injuries. They arrived at the scene in four minutes and found officers applying pressure to the bullet wound, trying to stop the profuse bleeding. They were also doing their best to keep Officer Ney calm. But the bullet had caused a traumatic brain injury, which gradually made him combative. The EMS team established an IV and prepared him for transport, however, they could not control the bleeding.

As paramedics worked to treat Officer Ney’s injuries, the Clearcreek engine crew set up a landing zone for CareFlight who arrived at the scene within 14 minutes from the time they were dispatched. By this time Ney’s airway had become compromised and the CareFlight crew worked with the Clearcreek paramedics to get him intubated on their first attempt. Flight nurse Victor Thornburg called it the most difficult intubation of his career.

Once Officer Ney was intubated, crews transferred him to the helicopter, and he was rapidly transported to the Level 1 Trauma Center at Miami Valley Hospital in Dayton just eight minutes after landing at the scene of the shooting. The prognosis was not good. Studies show 71% of patients who suffer a gunshot wound to the head die at the scene. Once the patient arrives at a trauma center, the survival rate is just 51%. But Officer Ney continued to fight and beat the odds.

Today, Eric Ney is home with his wife and family. It took months of surgery and intensive rehabilitation on his road to recovery. He suffered permanent damage that ended his law enforcement career, but he is grateful to have a second chance at life, and more time with his children. There is no doubt the focused and fearless efforts of his fellow officers, firefighters, EMS personnel and flight nurses – the chain of survival – are what helped saved Eric Ney’s life.



# EMS STARS

## JOHNSTON TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT



Sophia Minor  
Paramedic, FF



Kevin Bartchy  
Paramedic, FF



Alex Clark  
EMT



Martin Williams  
Patient





As a teenager, Sophia Minor had one goal: to become a paramedic. She wanted to serve and care for the people in her hometown. She was certified as an EMT in 2020 at the age of 19 and began volunteering at several departments to gain as much experience as possible. She quickly earned a reputation for being kind, compassionate, and eager to learn. In 2021, Ms. Minor enrolled in a paramedic program at University Hospitals Cleveland. A year later, she graduated second in her class. Little did she know then she would soon be facing one of her most challenging and most personal calls for care, and it wouldn't come from a dispatcher.

Ms. Minor was on her way home from work on the evening of November 18, 2022, when she received a call from her parents. Her grandfather, Martin Williams, had been having trouble breathing all day but refused to let his wife call for an ambulance. As the hours passed, his condition deteriorated. It got to the point where his family ignored his wishes and called for help. As Ms. Minor pulled into her grandparents' driveway, she was alerted that a crew was on the way, but she knew it would take precious minutes for them to arrive. Ms. Minor went inside the home that she knew so well and found her grandfather in his favorite chair. His skin was gray and she could not palpate a pulse. While the situation was emotional for her, she kept calm and focused on her training. She pulled her grandfather out of his chair and onto the floor to perform CPR and continued until her co-workers, EMT Alex Clark and paramedic, Kevin Bartchy, arrived just over five minutes later. Minor would not step aside. She insisted on treating her grandfather, establishing an IV and riding with him to the hospital, which was 24 miles away.

Martin Williams spent nearly two weeks in the ICU before being transferred to the Cleveland Clinic, where he received a pacemaker. A month of skilled rehabilitation followed and in February he walked back into the home where he had clinically died three months earlier. He survived because of the rapid, quality care he received from members of the Johnston Township Fire Department, and especially the immediate CPR from his beloved granddaughter Sophia.

# EMS STARS

## LOVELAND-SYMMES FIRE DEPARTMENT



Chief Otto Huber



Hunter Long  
Paramedic/FF



Jacob Shelley  
EMT, FF



Cpt. Raymond  
Carthen  
Paramedic/FF



Jack George  
EMT/FF



Deputy Chief Bruce  
Hawk  
Paramedic/FF



Deputy Chief Mike  
Books  
Paramedic/FF



Deputy Chief Jon  
Frye  
Paramedic/FF




Deputy Chief Mark  
Rose  
Paramedic/FF



Kenneth Patton  
Medical Director



Gregory Wells  
Patient



On September 21, 2022, the Loveland-Symmes Fire Department's EMS unit was dispatched to an industrial park for a laceration. When they arrived at the rear loading dock and saw workers calmly standing outside, they did not know that they would find chaos just inside. Sixty-four-year-old Gregory Wells was laying near a large pool of blood and was barely conscious. An angle grinder had kicked back, striking him in the arm and severing a major artery. Two co-workers provided immediate care, one applying direct pressure to the wound while another used a strap as a tourniquet. The EMS crew quickly took over and applied a CAT-tourniquet, but the bleeding would not stop. As the crew called for additional support, Mr. Wells became unconscious. They moved him to the ambulance and established an IV. Crews alerted the receiving hospital that they were transporting a critical trauma patient who had experienced an arterial laceration with massive blood loss.

Mr. Wells underwent extensive surgery and physical therapy and is still recovering. Doctors are hopeful he will eventually regain complete use of his right hand. There is no doubt that the quick actions of Mr. Wells' co-workers and the rapid care provided by the Loveland-Symmes EMS team saved his life.



# EMS STARS

## RIPLEY LIFE SQUAD, INC.



Chief Craig Hauke  
Paramedic



Asst. Chief  
Danielle Eichhorn  
Paramedic



Matt Bradford  
AEMT/FF



Chance Neu  
Driver



Dalton England  
EMT



Shance Weatherspoon  
EMT



Josh Malott  
Paramedic



Greg Stauffer  
EMT

## UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI AIR CARE



Kimy Thomas  
EMT



Shannon Whalen  
Pilot



Sally Mills  
Flight Nurse Practitioner



Ryan Ferris  
Flight RN

## RIPLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT



Tony Pfeffer  
EMT/FF



Ryan Regenstein  
EMT/FF



Donnie Koewler  
EMT/FF



Bryan Poole  
FF





Mark Farrow  
FF



Scotty Eagan  
EMT/FF



James McCaughey  
EMT/FF



Dustin Leonard  
FF



James Leonard  
EMT/FF



Floyd Hauke  
FF




Charles Hauke  
FF



Austin Bellamy  
Patient

A reality that first responders know all too well is to expect the unexpected. On August 26, 2022, the Ripley Fire Department was dispatched to a surreal but exceptionally dangerous scene. Austin Bellamy, 20-years-old, climbed a lemon tree in his family's yard to trim branches, and he did everything he could to stay safe. He wore a harness and hooked it to the tree so he wouldn't fall. His grandmother and uncle stood on the ground below, keeping an eye on him and looking for any potential problems that he might not be able to see. What none of them noticed was a huge bees' nest. Mr. Bellamy cut through the branch supporting the nest, unleashing tens of thousands of angry, aggressive bees, which immediately began stinging both Mr. Bellamy as well as his grandmother and uncle. Mr. Bellamy couldn't move and the swarm of bees kept any relatives from climbing up the tree to help him.




A decorative blue banner with white stars and streamers is positioned at the top of the page.

9-1-1 was contacted and the Ripley Fire Department soon arrived to find a chaotic scene. Mr. Bellamy was up in the tree, still in his harness, surrounded by a black cloud of bees. He was conscious and screaming for help. Ripley Fire Chief Tony Pfeffer and firefighters Ryan Regentein, Donnie Keowler and Brown Poole put on their full turnout gear and Nomex hoods, hoping that would protect them from the bees. They doused Mr. Bellamy with water, trying to get the bees to disperse, as Chief Pfeffer and Lieutenant Koewler backed up the ladder truck towards the tree. They were able to reach Mr. Bellamy and cut him down, but the bees kept attacking. Even the sturdy fabric of the turnout gear didn't prevent the chief and lieutenant from being stung themselves. The whole time, the severely injured young man couldn't stop thanking the firefighters for saving him. While they were rescuing Mr. Bellamy, Ripley Life Squad's paramedic Josh Malott, EMTs Shane Weatherspoon and Greg Stauffer treated his grandmother, uncle and other bystanders who had also suffered multiple bee stings.

Firefighters continued to spray Mr. Bellamy with water to try and keep the bees away. They loaded him into the Ripley Life Squad, where paramedics Craig Hauke, Danielle Eichorn, and EMT Matt Bradford were waiting to provide care. Mr. Bellamy was still conscious and talking to them, but his voice was quickly becoming hoarse. The team performed a rapid sequence intubation, administered IV Benadryl and steroids for his massive allergic response and fentanyl to manage his pain. The paramedics called University of Cincinnati Air Care because they knew he needed urgent treatment, but it was an hour's drive to the nearest trauma center.

When the Air Care crew arrived on the scene the flight nurses rushed to the ambulance finding dead bees on the floor and a young man covered in thousands of bee stings. The helicopter was airborne within ten minutes. The flight crew says several bees followed them into the aircraft and later, into the hospital.



Mr. Bellamy spent a week in Surgical Intensive Care, where doctors determined he had been stung more than 20,000 times. They even found bees in his lungs. Doctors say it could take as long as two years for all of the toxins to clear from his system. Mr. Bellamy credits the Ripley Life Squad, Ripley Fire Department and University of Cincinnati Air Care team for saving his life. He is so grateful for the heroism he benefited from that day that Mr. Bellamy recently completed firefighter training and now serves as a volunteer firefighter in his hometown of Hammersville.



# EMS STARS

## SANDUSKY COUNTY EMS



Chief Jeff Jackson  
Paramedic/FF



Captain Amanda  
McGinnis  
Paramedic/FF



John Chapman  
Paramedic/FF



Mandi Street  
EMT



Ashley Shaffer  
Paramedic



Alexandria Rumbutis  
EMT



Kimberly Zielinski  
Paramedic



Merideth Boes  
EMT



Tristan Murdock  
Paramedic



Brittany Dewyre  
Paramedic



**IN MEMORIAM**  
Emma Smith  
Patient

## MERCY LIFE FLIGHT



Jen Mullholand  
RN, EMT




Eric Perry  
RN, EMT/FF



Geoffery Garst  
ER Resident



Lisa Taylor  
Patient



A horrific scene played out on the Ohio Turnpike two days before Christmas. Around 12:30 in the afternoon of December 23, 2022, dangerous whiteout conditions led to a chain-reaction crash on the Ohio Turnpike. By the time it was finally over, 51 vehicles were involved, 73 people were injured and four lost their lives. Crews from several agencies fought the frigid weather to treat the critically injured. One rescue in particular revealed the determination of Sandusky County EMS to save lives as they fought difficult conditions that put their own health and safety at risk.

Around 1:30 p.m., Sandusky County EMS crews were able to reach a vehicle located underneath two tractor-trailers that contained six people and a dog inside. Three victims were pinned. The driver, 55-year-old Lisa Taylor, was in extreme pain, yet was begging crews to save her family first. They freed her son, who was critically injured. A 19-year-old family friend, Emma Smith, who was traveling with the Taylor family did not survive.



Crews now focused on Ms. Taylor. She was in a reclined position, crushed from the abdomen down, trapped under the steering wheel and dashboard. Accessing her was a challenge and the crews had to climb over and through mangled cars and under tractor-trailers to get

to Ms. Taylor to treat her. As they worked to save Ms. Taylor, they battled heavy snow and wind gusts over 50 miles an hour, which brought wind chills of -30 degrees fahrenheit. Frostbite wasn't just setting in for Ms. Taylor, it was affecting her rescuers as well. The provider trying to establish an IV lost manual dexterity and had a difficult time performing that delicate work. Once the line was established, providing continuous fluid replacement was impossible because the IV solution kept freezing.



Crews brought in portable heaters, heat packs and blankets, but space inside the crushed vehicle was so limited the effect was minimal. Providers could not properly treat Ms. Taylor for hypothermia.

No one gave up and crews from several departments began heavy rescue operations to finally free her from under the tractor trailer. She was finally extricated at 6:34 p.m., some six hours after the crash, but the challenges were not over. Transporting Ms. Taylor to the Level 1 Trauma Center at Mercy Health-St. Vincent by Sandusky County EMS and Mercy Health Life Flight 4 personnel took 63 minutes because of the dangerous weather and road conditions.

The entire Taylor family spent time in the hospital after the crash. They are now home, working to recover physically and emotionally. The first responders who spent hours caring for Ms. Taylor and working to free her have kept in touch with the family to check on



their recovery. Those crews have suffered from mental trauma as well because of the horrors they saw that day, all surrounded by the signs of Christmas. Several other victims involved in the mass casualty crash have sent letters of thanks for their care and compassion in the face of such stress and tragedy. This incident is worth noting the amount of collaboration that took place between over 20 fire and EMS responding agencies in three different counties. All of the first responders on this day, including law enforcement personnel, EMS and fire service providers, tow truck operators, and ODOT personnel were all true heroes.



# EMS STARS

## SAYBROOK TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT



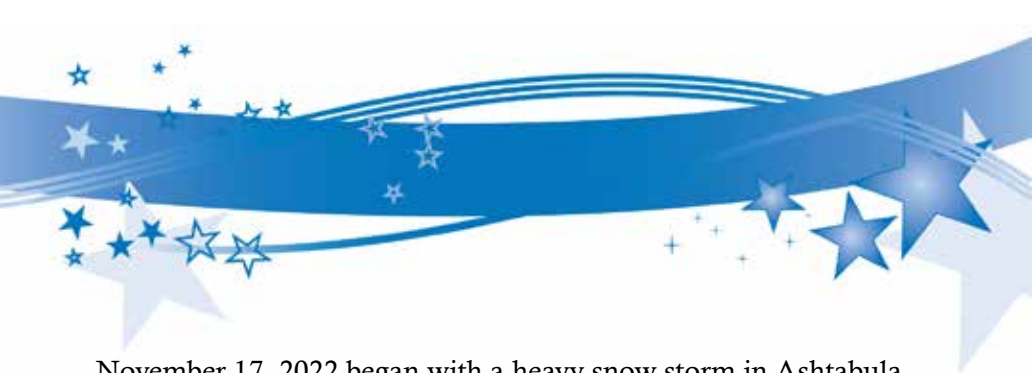
Jim Krenisky  
Paramedic, FF



Jason Coy  
Paramedic, FF



Mark Legg  
Patient



November 17, 2022 began with a heavy snow storm in Ashtabula County. By mid-morning, it was 17 inches deep and the roads were impassable. Suddenly a call came in to Saybrook Township Fire Department for 63-year-old Mark Legg who complained of several symptoms usually indicative of a stroke. Paramedic Jim Krenisky knew time was not on the patient's side. He and paramedic Jason Coy got in their squad to respond to Mr. Legg's home, but within a mile of the residence, the squad became stuck in the mounds of snow and drifts covering the roads. Without hesitation, Mr. Krenisky got out, grabbed his gear and started walking. He trudged through the deep snow, walking one mile to Mr. Legg's home. He evaluated Mr. Legg's symptoms and determined it was likely he was suffering a stroke. About 20 minutes after he began providing care, Mr. Coy arrived on scene with the squad, after following a snowplow driven by Shane Shettler. While treating the patient, the crew also contacted various surrounding agencies to make sure the roads to the hospital were passable.

Thanks to Mr. Krenisky's selfless act of heroism and the help of the road crews, paramedics Krenisky and Coy were able to transport Mr. Legg to the emergency department at University Hospitals Geneva Medical Center in time to receive life-saving medication and immediate contemporary stroke management. Because these dedicated community servants went above and beyond in challenging conditions, Mr. Legg was able to recover and is doing well.

# EMS STARS

## TIPP CITY EMERGENCY SERVICES



Cameron Haller  
Paramedic/FF



Kenny Rust  
Paramedic/FF



Clayton Snider  
EMT/FF



Allison Hempy  
EMT/FF

## NEW CARLISLE FIRE DIVISION



Emma Salisbury  
Paramedic/FF



Rachel Salisbury  
EMT/FF



Max Foster-Webb  
EMT/FF



Michael Leavitt  
Miami County Deputy



Derek Stephenson  
Miami County Deputy

## CAREFLIGHT



Marcia Roemer  
Paramedic/Flight Nurse



Brandon Pippin  
Paramedic/Flight Nurse



Christopher Robison  
CareFlight Pilot



Linda Rickert  
CareFlight Communication  
Specialist



Parrish Brazel  
Tipp City Police Officer

## TIPP CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

## MIAMI COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS



Jenny Noll  
Dispatcher



Nathan Cain  
Dispatcher



Shannon Adams  
Dispatcher



Amy Carson  
Dispatcher



Sue Ducker  
Patient

*Not Pictured: Kaleb Filadelfo, EMT/FF and Justin Parrett, EMT*



Sue Ducker loves horseback riding, and October 29, 2022 seemed like the perfect fall day to go for a ride. The 72-year-old put on her helmet, mounted her horse and set out on the bridle trails in Tipp City's Kyle Park. During her ride, a dog suddenly spooked Ducker's horse, throwing her body into a tree before she hit the ground, knocking her unconscious. A bystander saw it all happen and called 9-1-1 not knowing the exact location. The Miami County Communications Center worked diligently to identify the precise location of Susan within the park's trail system.

The call was dispatched to Tipp City Medic 32 that was staffed by the only paramedic in the city with mutual aid being requested from New Carlisle Fire Department. They knew that the bridle trail is long and rugged; therefore, Tipp City Medic 32 requested Tipp City Medic 31 to pick-up their all-terrain vehicle and Tipp City Engine 32.

By the time responding crews arrived at the park, a Tipp City K-9 officer had found Ms. Ducker and realized she was seriously injured. Once paramedics reached Ms. Ducker, she had regained consciousness but was clearly in pain and her breathing was labored. While the team assessed her injuries, stabilized her pelvis and loaded her onto the ATV for transport, other first responders worked to clear a more direct path from her location to an identified landing zone nearby.

Following a labor-intensive 75-minute extrication from the scene to the landing zone, CareFlight transported Ms. Ducker to Miami Valley Hospital. After a complete examination at the hospital, it was discovered that Ms. Ducker had a pelvic fracture, a femoral neck fracture, a hemopneumothorax, multiple rib fractures, a clavicle fracture, a pulmonary contusion, multiple spinal fractures, as well as internal bleeding. Ms. Ducker spent 17 days in the hospital, undergoing several surgeries. Significant rehabilitation followed before she began recovering at home. Had it not been for the quick thinking of Tipp City EMS and assistance from other departments, Ms. Ducker may not have survived.



# EMS STARS

## WESTLAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT



Cpt. Tyler Kelly  
Paramedic, FF



Lt. Doug Vasi  
Paramedic, FF



Chris Gut  
Paramedic, FF



Paul Carroll  
Paramedic, FF



Nick Tummino  
Paramedic, FF



John Tomlinson  
Paramedic, FF



Benjamin Erdani  
Paramedic, FF



Michael Swanker  
Paramedic, FF



Matthew Kritzer  
Paramedic, FF



Ryan Sholtis  
Paramedic, FF



Matthew Craig  
Westlake Police



J.P. Toth  
Westlake Police



Michael Thompson  
Westlake Police



Jeremiah Bullins  
Westlake Police



Ryan Jasinsky  
Westlake Police



Daniel Deagan  
Patient



Dan Deagan and his girlfriend, Jackie Ramey, were excited about showing off their new dream home to friends. They were planning a big Fourth of July party and spent July 3rd getting ready. Mr. Deagan went upstairs that evening around 10:30 p.m. to go to bed. Ms. Ramey was in the basement, putting the dogs in a quiet place hoping to protect them from the sound of fireworks that night. What neither of them knew was at that very moment, a fire had started in a trash can on their back porch and spread to a Yeti cooler. The fire soon grew so big. Their neighbor saw the flames and called 9-1-1.

Westlake Police arrive on the scene first, at 37 minutes after midnight on July 4, 2022. Jackie was outside, and told them Dan was asleep on the second floor, directly above the fire. The officers tried to make entry into the house, but the smoke and heat were so intense they had to pull back. They yelled out to Mr. Deagan, who confirmed he was still on the second floor and couldn't escape. Soon the first unit from the Westlake Fire Department arrived and crews with Engine 72 made their way to the second floor and found Mr. Deagan in critical care. He had suffered partial thickness and full thickness burns to more than half of his body. There was also evidence of burns to his airway with heavy soot on his tongue, lips and teeth along with diminished breath sounds. Mr. Deagan was immediately placed on oxygen, IVs were established in both arms and a 12 lead EKG was obtained. Remarkably, Mr. Deagan remained conscious and was able to talk to the paramedics. A decision was made to bypass the closest hospital and transport him directly to the regional burn center, Metrohealth Medical Center in Cleveland. During the transport he received normal saline and fentanyl for pain. He spent a month in the burn unit enduring daily dressing changes. He continues to improve, but still undergoes treatment on a regular basis.

The positive outcome of this call was a result of teamwork by law enforcement, firefighters, and EMS personnel. The expert care and decision making by the paramedics assured he will be able to live as normal a life as possible.

# EMS STAR OF LIFE

The EMS Star of Life Awards are being presented by the Ohio Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians, the State Board of Emergency Medical, Fire, and Transportation Services, and the Ohio Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Medical Services.

The EMS Star of Life Awards recognize outstanding achievements and honor those in Ohio's EMS system whose accomplishments rise above the day-to-day excellence of the system. Each day in Ohio, EMS providers save lives and perform countless noteworthy acts of caring, kindness, and service to their community.

These awards are a tribute to those individuals and organizations whose overall contributions go beyond their basic duties and responsibilities and who represent the finest traditions of our profession.

The Awards Selection Panel evaluated nominations based upon achievement of excellence in areas of patient care, public access, public education and training, disaster preparedness, and outstanding service to their communities.





# SPECIAL THANKS TO...

## **EMS Star of Life Speakers**

Mark Marchetta, Sr. – *State Board of Emergency Medical, Fire, and Transportation Services*

Karen Huey – *Assistant Director, Ohio Department of Public Safety*

## **EMS Star of Life Presenters**

Mark Resanovich – *State Board of Emergency Medical, Fire, and Transportation Services*

Carol Cunningham, MD, FAAEM, FAEMS – *State of Ohio Medical Director*

Holly Dorr, MBA, CAE, CMP – *Ohio Chapter of the American College of  
Emergency Physicians*

## **EMS Star of Life Organizer**

Valerie Koker – *Executive Assistant, Division of EMS*

## **EMS Star of Life Plaque Awards**

Ohio Association of Critical Care Transport

## **EMS Star of Life Pins & Program Logistics**

Holly Dorr, MBA, CAE, CMP – *Ohio Chapter of the American College of  
Emergency Physicians*

## **EMS Star of Life Video Voiceover**

Erin Reed – *ODPS Project Manager*

## **EMS Star of Life Public Communications**

Carol Morgan – *ODPS Public Information Officer*

## **EMS Star of Life Program and Videos**

Todd Dilley – *ODPS Visual Communications*

Laura Milem – *ODPS Visual Communications*

## **EMS Star of Life Photographer**

Rebecca Meadows – *ODPS Visual Communications*

## **“When Those Sirens Are Gone” Video**

Performed by: Kevin Davison, singer, songwriter, paramedic and firefighter

Written by: Kevin Davison and Doug Folkins

Video sponsored by: The Tema Memorial Trust



The Ohio Department of Public Safety, through the Division of EMS, oversees the certification of emergency medical technicians and firefighters and ensures that the professionals in these lifesaving roles are properly trained, educated, and prepared for emergency situations.



The State Board of Emergency Medical, Fire, and Transportation Services is dedicated to saving lives and minimizing disability to Ohio's citizens and visitors by developing and continually enhancing a statewide, comprehensive, systematic response to injury, illness, and fire, primarily through education, training, certification, and strategic planning.



Established in 1972, Ohio ACEP is a state medical specialty society representing emergency medicine with more than 1,400 emergency physician members. Ohio ACEP is committed to advancing emergency care through continuing education, research, and public education, and assuring access to high quality emergency care for the people of Ohio. Headquartered in Columbus, Ohio, Ohio ACEP is a chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians representing emergency physicians nationwide.





